

# Newsletter

November 2024



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**Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church**

Huntley, IL [sotp.org](http://sotp.org) 847/669-9448

*Photo: High School Youth—Wednesday Night*

# **A Note**

## **From Pastor Mark**



John 15:9-17

Dear Friends in Ministry,

Your participation in the life of Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church is very important and special. By joining together with other members and friends, SOTP continues to share the Gospel here and across the country and world.

Looking back over the past year it is awesome and humbling to consider all the ways Shepherd of the Prairie has shared the good news of Jesus. The ministry here is making a difference in people's lives every single day.

Over this past month I hope you have been able to better connect and appreciate the rich heritage that is ours as a Lutheran. This year our theme has challenged us to build a culture of generosity by remembering who we are and where God is leading. With your partnership in the Gospel we truly believe the best is yet to come! Thanks for your participation both in worship as well as some of the other activities related to our stewardship emphasis this year.

As we consider our stewardship response for 2025, we do so considering the opportunities and challenges we have each faced. Some of us are in different places economically than we were. However, all of us are in a place of more gratitude for God's love in our lives and excitement for sharing the gospel with others.

As you consider your gift for the coming year, you are encouraged to consider how it is you can grow in your generosity. Perhaps an additional \$1 per day would work for you. Perhaps you could consider making one additional gift this year to your normal weekly or monthly contributions. You might consider adding a 13th month or 53rd week, for example. As we begin this generosity journey together, please pray about how you can grow in generosity this year.

As a reminder we are asking our members and friends to bring their Statement of Intent card to worship on the weekend of November 2-3 (All Saint's Weekend). If you won't be in worship with us that weekend, you may go to our website under the Offering link and fill out your intent for 2025 so we can include your generosity as we share our progress.

Thanks be to God for you and for all you do to bless our worshipping community. And, thank you for considering how you can grow in generosity in the coming year.

Faithfully,

**Pastor Mark**

# Ministry Musings

## With Donna



Prayer...one of the staples of our Christian faith. But what is prayer? There's a story in Luke 18

where Jesus talks about a widow who was persistent in her appeal to an unjust judge who wanted nothing to do with her or her case. Yet she never gave up her petition; she kept on badgering the judge until he finally gave in and gave her a just ruling, just to get her off his back!

So, is this telling us that if we pray for something and God doesn't answer the way we want we should just keep on pestering him until he gets tired of hearing us and gives us what we desire? I don't think so. I do think God wants us to continually pray for the needs of others, creation and even for ourselves. But to focus on our persistence is, I think, missing the point.

I believe we need to concentrate on God's persistence rather than ours; the good news of scripture is about God's persistent, unshakeable, everlasting love for us and for all of creation. We are so absolutely beloved by God that we can trust God to bring about justice and wholeness. God's love never gives up on us; God is the shepherd searching for the lost sheep, the woman desperately looking for her lost coin, the father waiting and yearning for both of his sons to come home.

God hears our prayers, those cries in the night as we call out to him with longing and emptiness. God hears our prayers of joy and thanksgiving. We may not always see the results we want, in the timeframe we want, but God has not forgotten us. Sometimes we grow impatient, losing heart and hope, but God never loses hope in us.

Our life of faith is not only about telling God what is on our wish list but is about constantly lifting up every joy and concern, fear and doubt, every lament and plea to the one who hears us and answers. The responses may not come when and how we think they should. After all, God isn't a genie in a magic lamp waiting to pop out and give us our every wish; but God's love remains constant and steadfast in the face of it all.

We, like to widow in the story Jesus told, can keep praying, hoping against all odds, persistent, determined and relentless; yet always praying, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done." The answer to our prayer may not be the one we want, but we can be assured that no matter the answer, God will always walk with us every step of the way.

*Donna Kelly*

# New Member Gathering

## A Way to Know More About Us

If you have been worshipping with us for a while here at SOTP in person or online and would like to know more about us as a worshipping community, we would love to have you join us

A graphic with a blue background. On the left, a magnifying glass is focused on the word "information" on a document. Above the magnifying glass is the SOTP logo (a stylized plant) and a row of five stars. Below the magnifying glass is a QR code. On the right, the text reads: "NEW MEMBER GATHERING" in large yellow letters, followed by "FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH" in smaller white letters, "SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10 3:00 PM" in large yellow letters, and the URL "www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG1124" in white. The right side of the graphic features a white geometric pattern of overlapping squares and lines.

at our New Member Gathering. We will be offering the gathering on **Sunday, November 10th, from 3 - 5:30pm**. This will be an opportunity for you to learn more about the life and ministry of SOTP and for you to consider prayerfully whether or not you want to formally become a member of the SOTP family.

If you have any questions **or would like to attend**, please sign up at [www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG1124](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG1124), contact Donna Kelly or You can also sign up at the Registration Kiosk on Sundays.

Contact Donna Kelly  
[donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@ sotpmail.com)

# SOTP Logowear

## Online Apparel Store

A graphic with a purple background. It features several pieces of apparel: a yellow long-sleeve shirt, a blue t-shirt, a red hoodie, and a grey baseball cap, all with the SOTP logo. The SOTP logo is a stylized plant with three leaves. The text reads: "SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH" in white, "Online Apparel Store" in large white letters, and the URL "www.bit.ly/SOTPlogowear" in white. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner.



# Game Day

Fun for All



Sunday  
**Game Day**  
November 17 @ Noon

**CHILI COOKOFF**  
Bring a pot of chili or come, enjoy & vote

**FOOTBALL**  
Packers @ Bears  
On the Big Screen

**GAMES**  
Bring your own favorite games to play

**KIDS ACTIVITIES**  
Fall Games  
Cookie Decorating & More

Info & Sign Up: [www.bit.ly/SOTPg24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPg24)



## Next Step Fellowship

For All Seniors



**Holiday Luncheon:**  
Saturday, November 23, Noon

**NEXT STEP FELLOWSHIP**  
Fellowship Group for Single Seniors  
Please Register

Info & Sign Up: [www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1124](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1124)



All seniors (55+) are invited to join us for our holiday potluck. Please join the Next Step group as we have a holiday potluck lunch from 12:00-2:00 in the coffee area outside of the sanctuary. Please register for this event and add what you can bring so we don't have

too many of just one thing! Hope to see you there.

We can also talk about spring plans for Next Step. Happy Holidays!

Contact: Phyllis Thomson  
[phyllisthompson@aol.com](mailto:phyllisthompson@aol.com)

# Friendsgiving

A New Tradition with Our SOTP Family



Bring a Dish for Potluck

## Friendsgiving DINNER CHURCH

Wednesday, November 27  
6pm

**REGISTRATION REQUESTED**  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24)

We are beginning a new tradition here at SOTP with our FRIENDSGIVING DINNER CHURCH.

We will gather at 6pm to share dinner together, worship and participate in the Lord's Supper. It will be very much like our Lenten Dinner Church gatherings.

SOTP will provide turkey, ham and drinks for the potluck, and the sides,

salads and desserts will be brought by attendees. We are asking that if you would like to attend, please register at [www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24) and let us know what you plan to bring, either a side dish, salad or dessert. So, get out your favorite family holiday recipes to share.

Contact: Donna Kelly  
[donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@sotpmail.com)



Our 2024  
*Thanksgiving Offering*  
will be equally divided  
between:

*Giving the gift of food.*

ELCA World Hunger  
Feed My Starving Children  
Grafton Food Pantry  
Hampshire Food Pantry  
Northern IL Food Bank



Oh ye generous people of SOTP, the thankful offerings for this Thanksgiving will be directed toward food needs.

Happy Thanksgiving from the Mission Team

# Wednesday Night Dinners

## Friends, Food & Fellowship

**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# NOVEMBER

## Wednesday Night Dinners

5:45 - 6:45 pm

**JOIN US FOR DINNER ALL ARE WELCOME**

More Information & Sign Up:  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPwed1124](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPwed1124)  
 Registration Appreciated

**Volunteers Needed**

needed to arrive at 5:15pm, serve and clean - we should be

SOTP has got dinner covered on Wednesday nights!

These meals are open to all, especially those of you who have children in Adventure Club, Confirmation, or Youth Group.

Volunteers will prepare the meals, so all you need to do is come hungry, gather at the tables, and enjoy! Kitchen support is

done around 7pm.

Suggested donation of \$4 per plate will be encouraged to help support this ministry. Please register ahead of time if possible so we know approximately how many we are cooking for each week.

Contact: Pastor Ryan Mackey  
[pastorryan@sotpmail.com](mailto:pastorryan@sotpmail.com)

## View ALL Current Events And Register Easily

**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Me Check-In Signups Groups More

### EASILY VIEW CURRENT EVENTS & REGISTRATIONS

[www.bit.ly/SOTPsignup](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPsignup)

**ADULT EDUCATION**  
 Faith & Mental Health  
 Shame, Guilt & Forgiveness  
 Sundays 10:20 am  
 Jan 15 - Feb 26  
 Contact: Pastor Roy Olsen  
 olsenr129@icbcilowa.net

**SOUP KIDS NEED YOU!**  
 Ways You Can Help Sundays

**ALFALFA FLOWERS**

**SOUP SUPPER WORSHIP**  
 MARCH 5:45 PM  
 SET UP BRING SOUP CLEAN UP  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPsupper23](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPsupper23)  
 Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com

**6th-8th & 8th Grade WEDNESDAY CONFIRMATION**  
 Resuming  
 January 11, 6:30 pm  
 Register: <https://bit.ly/SOTPconfirm>  
 Contact: Donna Kelly youth@sotpmail.com



# Decorate for Christmas

## Many

SOTP Worship Committee invites you to join us as we decorate for Christmas.

Consider this a party invitation as we do have lots of fun and camaraderie. We will decorate five trees and add the fun details of Christmas to the sanctuary and

gathering area. Please look at your calendar and circle the date.

Monday, December 2, 2024

Time – 9am until noon

Bring your smiles and decorating ideas and let's make this year ABSOLUTELY



BEAUTIFUL!!!

Please sign up at [www.bit.ly/SOTPdec24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPdec24) or let Carolyn Cuttle know you can help  
Thanks for your help!!!!

Contact: Carolyn Cuttle  
[ednca@comcast.net](mailto:ednca@comcast.net)

# Blue Christmas

## For Those Living With Loss

We will be hosting a Blue Christmas Service on **Tuesday, December 3rd at 7pm**. This is a simple service of readings and carols in remembrance of the losses in our lives. If you have suffered any kind of loss (a loved one, a relationship, a job, purpose, a sense of self...) and would like to honor that loss this Christmas, please join us. Registration in not required.



For more information, please contact Donna Kelly at the church office.

Contact: Donna Kelly  
[donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@sotpmail.com)



# The Artist Series Presents Merry Christmas Darling

The Shepherd of the Prairie Artist Series, in association with Artists Lounge Live presents *Merry Christmas Darling*, Heidi Kettenring Sings Karen Carpenter on December 8th at 5PM.

Chicago's favorite leading lady and Fulton Theatre standout, Keidi Kettenring (*Wicked*, Broadway in Chicago) and her

exceptional band present the timeless treasures and holiday hits of Karen Carpenter. A storyteller sure to stir the heart, multi-award-winner Kettenring tenderly chronicles Carpenter's troubles and triumphs with a familiar angelic radiance. Around the Town Chicago calls the show, "Glorious. An elegant, tear jerking sing along concert event."



In the spirit of the Holiday Season, at this event the Artist Series will hold a silent auction of the "12 Days of Christmas" gift baskets for the holidays. Come early and join in the festivities.

Doors open at 4:00 pm

Contact: The Artist Series  
[artistseries@sotpmail.com](mailto:artistseries@sotpmail.com)

## Prayer Chain Praying for Others

**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# PRAYER CHAIN

To submit a request, go to:  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPpray](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPpray)

Submit prayers to:  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPpray](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPpray)  
Join our prayer chain by emailing Donna at [donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@sotpmail.com)

# Christmas Eve

At SOTP



## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

**3 pm - Traditional Service:**

Traditional Carols, Candlelight, and Communion

**5 pm - Contemporary Service:**

Contemporary Carols, Candlelight, and Communion

**11 pm - Service of the Word:**

Traditional Carols & Candlelight

# One Service

December 29, 2024



DECEMBER 29, 2024

# ONE

SERVICE

**10:00 AM**

END THE YEAR WITH US

IN PERSON & ONLINE AT [WWW.BIT.LY/SOTPSTREAM](http://WWW.BIT.LY/SOTPSTREAM)

# Release & Renew

## Meditation & Prayer

### release & renew

MEDITATION, PRACTICE & PRAYER

Start the new year in a meaningful way.

January 7, 2025

Open House 10am - 8pm

More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPrenew25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPrenew25)



Would you like to begin the new year in a meaningful way? Come join us in a time of meditation, practice and prayer.

Release & Renew, a self-guided practice of meditation, ritual and prayer, will take

place in our Fellowship Hall in an open house format **Tuesday, January 7th between 10am and 8pm.**

Contact: Donna Kelly [donna@sotpmail.org](mailto:donna@sotpmail.org) or through the church office 847-669-9448.

## Artist Series

### Youth Jazz Ensemble of DuPage

**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ARTIST SERIES PROUDLY PRESENTS

# Youth Jazz Ensemble of DuPage

Robert Blazek, Director

Sunday, January 19th 4pm

Small blue signs with the ensemble name are visible in the foreground.



# Connect With Us

Receive Only the Emails You Want



The graphic features a blue background with a white torn-paper effect at the top and bottom. In the top left corner is the logo for Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church, which includes a stylized 'f' with three colored lines (blue, green, yellow) above it. The text 'SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH' is to the right of the logo. In the center, the text 'STAY CONNECTED & PERSONALIZE YOUR' is in white, followed by 'Email Selections' in a large, white, cursive font. Below this is the URL 'www.bit.ly/SOTPEmails' in white. To the left of the URL is a QR code. To the right are three white callout boxes with black text: 'Daily Devotionals' (top left), 'Friday Flourish' (top right), and 'Newsletter' (bottom right).

**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

STAY CONNECTED & PERSONALIZE YOUR

**Email Selections**

[www.bit.ly/SOTPEmails](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPEmails)

Daily Devotionals

Friday Flourish

Newsletter

# Memory Garden Brick Orders

We are now taking orders for memory bricks for the Memory Garden walkway. We now have 3 orders and need at least 5 of each size to order and get "free freight" from Florida.

- ⇒ 4"x8" brick with 3 lines is \$80.00
- ⇒ 8"x8" brick with 6 lines is \$150.



The graphic is a rectangular advertisement. On the left is a stack of red bricks. In the center is a white background with the logo (a stylized 'f' with three colored lines) at the top left. To the right of the logo is the text 'Memory Bricks' in a large, black, serif font. Below this is the text 'Lining the walkway to the Memory Garden' in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. Underneath is 'Taking orders now' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. To the right of this text is a list of two items: '• 4x8 \$80' and '• 8x8 \$150'. Below the list is a QR code. At the bottom of the graphic is a dark grey banner with the text 'More Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPmembricks' in white. On the right side of the graphic is a photograph of a paved walkway made of grey and red bricks.

**Memory Bricks**

Lining the walkway to the Memory Garden

**Taking orders now**

- 4x8 \$80
- 8x8 \$150

Order forms in church office

More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPmembricks](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPmembricks)

Order forms are in the Church office.

Contact: *Ralph Wehnes*  
[ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net)

# Adult Education



**ADULT EDUCATION**  
WITH PASTOR ROY OLSON

**FACTFULNESS**

**Sundays at 10:20 am**  
Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPadultED0924](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPadultED0924)



Is your view of the future distorted? When you contemplate the future are you hopeful?

Beginning on Sunday, September 8, 2024, these questions and other related issues will be answered during the adult education series on the “factfulness way of life.”

We will test our basic knowledge of our world and its projected future for accuracy. Using the book Factfulness by Hans Rosling, we will identify 10 instincts for the dramatic that we all have and that unknowingly can lead us astray as we view God’s world and its future.

Coupling our Christian faith with these 10 fact-finding tools will help us to counter the fear of the future that has taken over much of our discourse. Join us at 10: 20 on Sunday mornings beginning on September 8th to learn

the factfulness way of life. Please register so we know how many handouts to provide and bring a folder to store them in.

[November 3:](#) The Destiny Instinct

[November 10:](#) The Single Perspective Instinct

[November 17:](#) The Blame Instinct

[November 24:](#) The Urgency Instinct and Conclusion

*Contact: Pastor Roy Olson  
[olson612sr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olson612sr@sbcglobal.net)*

# ***SOTP Kids Need YOU***

*One Hour... or More*

**KIDS CONNECT HELP NEEDED**

**WE NEED YOU!**

**HELP ONCE TWICE OR MORE!**

Volunteers Needed

More Info & Sign Up:  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPKChelp24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPKChelp24)



# ***Kids Connect Sundays***

*Join the Fun!*

**KIDS CONNECT**

Preschool through 5th Grade

**Register Now:**  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPKIDS](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPKIDS)





# Adventure Club

## 4th & 5th Graders



**4TH & 5TH GRADERS**

Join us  
**Wednesdays**  
at  
**7:00 pm**

**Adventure CLUB**



**Info & Register:**  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPadv2425](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPadv2425)

All 4th & 5th Graders are invited to join us weekly **on Wednesdays September 18, 2024 through May 7, 2025** from 6:30 - 7:30 pm with the exception of these

dates that we WILL NOT be meeting:

- Nov 27
- Dec 2
- Jan 1

•March 5 & 26

•April 16

Register now at

[www.bit.ly/SOTPadv2425](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPadv2425)

Contact: Jill Gillming

[jill@sotpmail.com](mailto:jill@sotpmail.com)

## Food Drive—October 6

SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE HOSTS



# GRAFTON PANTRY FOOD DRIVE



10805 MAIN ST. HUNTLEY



## MONTHLY 1ST SUNDAY 8:30 - 11AM

**Collecting in Car Outside Main Office Entrance**

# Prayer Shawl Ministry

Praying, Knitting & Crocheting



PRAYER SHAWL  
MINISTRY  
SECOND THURS MONTHLY  
KNITTING & CROCHETING 9AM  
TOGETHER

# Prairie Quilters

You Are Invited to Join Us

Thank all of you for your support, for all the "Quarters for Quilts" donations. Without your support and donations we couldn't continue making quilts for all the people. One of our group's favorite days is

when we have the dedication and can warm the church up with all the colorful quilts.

So now we have started a new year and have a long way to go. We could really



Prairie Pointe  
Quilters  
Monthly on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays  
9:00 am  
*No Experience Necessary*

use your help. If you would like to join a fun loving group please contact me and I can give you the information.

Contact: Bev Kenny  
krkbjk@comcast.net

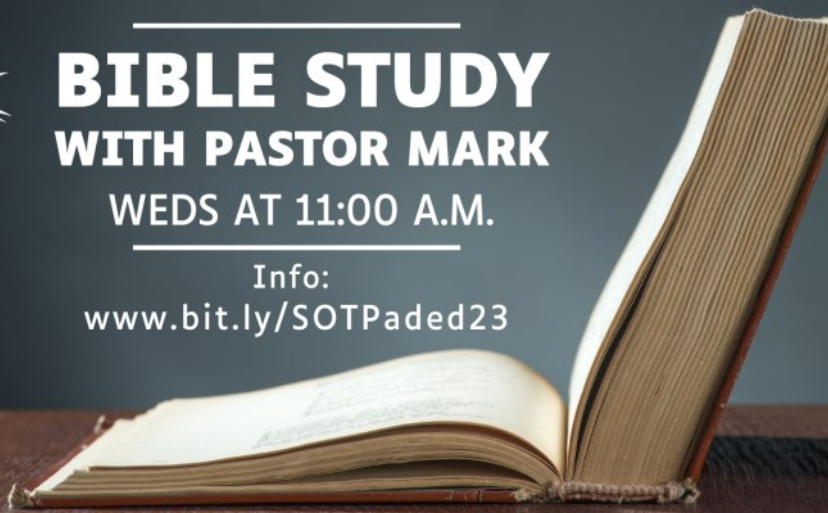
# ***Bible Study*** *With Pastor Mark*



## **BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR MARK**

WEDS AT 11:00 A.M.

Info:  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPaded23](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPaded23)



# ***Ushers Needed—All Ages*** *Serve Monthly at Favorite Service*



**OUR TEAM  
NEEDS YOU**

# **USHERS NEEDED**

**MORE INFO:**  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPusher](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPusher)





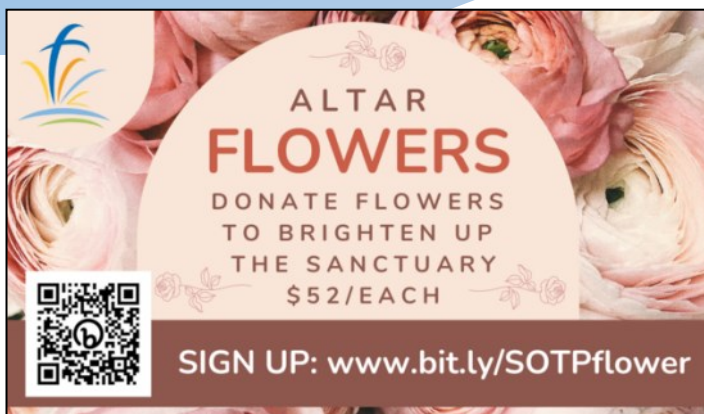
# Altar Flowers

Please consider signing up to donate flowers to brighten up the sanctuary. Each arrangement will be \$52.

The bouquets are delivered from the florist for the weekend worship services. The flowers are yours to keep after the Sunday services or you can pick them up on the Monday following. The church is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

There are several ways to place an order for altar flowers. You can do so online here, you can also order the flowers on the church website or you can contact Diane on [dem910@outlook.com](mailto:dem910@outlook.com). Payments can be made by credit/debit card or check/cash.

When you order the flowers, you will need to provide your name, the date



you would like them, your phone number, and for whom the flowers are dedicated to or in memory of. You will receive a special offering envelope for the payment in the mail if you choose to pay by check or cash. If you have any questions, please call Diane Mollis 224-654-6677.

Thank you for contributing to beautify the altar during our services at Shepherd of the Prairie.

*Contact: Diane Mollis  
[dem910@outlook.com](mailto:dem910@outlook.com)*

## T-coil Hearing Aid? Use our Loop System

Ask your hearing care professional how. Some hearing aids are set up where they might have an app on your cellphone that says "telecoil mode", and you'll activate that. You might have the ability to adjust the volume up and turn down for the microphone level. But again, talk to your hearing care professional, they

should be able to show you all those options, and then play around with it, when you're in church.

*Contact: your hearing aid professional*



# ***Grief Journey*** *Journey Through Loss*



  
**GRIEF JOURNEY  
GROUP**  
**TUESDAY MORNINGS  
10AM**  
Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPgrief](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPgrief)



# ***Transitions*** *Journey Through Loss*



  
**TRANSITIONS**  
**A JOURNEY  
THROUGH LOSS**  
**TUESDAYS**  
**7:00 PM**  
More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPtrans](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPtrans)



Are you going through a deep loss: death of a loved one; job loss; loss of a relationship; empty nesting; divorce; loss of health; loss of purpose?

We have begun a new loss support group meeting in the church Library from 7 to 8 pm. If you would like more

information please contact Donna Kelly, [donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@sotpmail.com) or through the church office, 847-669-9448.

Contact: *Donna Kelly*  
[donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@sotpmail.com)

# Morning Movement

Walk With Us



**Morning Movement**

Walk the halls at SOTP

Come Alone or With Friends



[www.bit.ly/SOTPwalk](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPwalk)

**Weekdays 7:30-8:30 am**

# Friends Bible Study

For Women

The group meets every Monday from 12:30 -2:30 in the Willow Room at Shepherd of the Prairie. Join us as you are able; no sign-up is necessary.



**FRIENDS BIBLE STUDY**

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED

**MONDAYS 12:30 PM**



More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPfriends](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPfriends)

Contact: Linda Dungey  
[lindajsd88@gmail.com](mailto:lindajsd88@gmail.com)



# Ministry Night

You Are Invited!



SECOND MONDAY MONTHLY  
7:00 pm



# MINISTRY NIGHT

# Little Lambs Preschool

Now Enrolling

**Now Enrolling  
2024-2025  
School Year**

**AGES  
2-5**

Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPLlambs](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPLlambs)

# Collecting Plastic Bags

Building a Bench



Recycling  
**PLASTIC BAGS**  
Creating a  
**BENCH**

With **NexTrex**

MORE INFO:  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPbench](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPbench)

Donations Needed



The advertisement features a green circular background with a white bench on the right. A yellow banner in the top right corner says 'Donations Needed'. A QR code is located in the bottom left, and a recycling symbol is in the bottom right. The text 'Recycling PLASTIC BAGS Creating a BENCH' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'With NexTrex' below it. The website 'www.bit.ly/SOTPbench' is provided for more information.

Huntley Lions Club is now collecting at SOTP to build another bench.

Contact: Tara Mackey  
[rtmackey10@yahoo.com](mailto:rtmackey10@yahoo.com)

# High School Youth

Wednesday Nights



High School  
**YOUTH GROUP**

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS  
7:00 - 8:30 PM

[www.bit.ly/SOTPHSYOUTH](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPHSYOUTH)



The advertisement has a dark blue background with a glowing blue rectangular border. The text 'High School YOUTH GROUP' is in large, bold, white letters. Below it, 'WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 7:00 - 8:30 PM' is written in smaller white text. The website 'www.bit.ly/SOTPHSYOUTH' is at the bottom. A QR code is in the bottom left, and a stylized plant logo is in the top left and bottom right corners.

# Men's Coffee

Tuesdays



**MEN'S COFFEE**  
McDonald's by Huntley Walmart



**Tuesdays at 7:30 am**  
INFO: [www.bit.ly/SOTPMen](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPMen)

# Women's Coffee

Fridays



**Women's Coffee Gathering**  
Fridays 10am



**MCDONALD'S BY HUNTLEY WALMART**



# **Friendsgiving—Dinner Church**

*Come, Celebrate Church Family*



**Friendsgiving  
DINNER CHURCH**  
Wednesday, November 27  
6pm

Bring a Dish  
for Potluck

**REGISTRATION REQUESTED**  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24)

## **Blue Christmas Service**

*For Those*

We will be hosting a Blue Christmas Service on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7pm. This is a simple service of readings and carols in remembrance of the losses in our lives. If you have suffered any kind of loss (a loved one, a relationship, a job, purpose, a sense of self...) and would like to honor that loss this Christmas, please join us. Registration is not required.



**Blue Christmas**  
Tuesday, December 3, 2024  
7:00 pm

Worship service  
for those  
living with loss.

More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPblue24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPblue24)

For more information, please contact Donna Kelly at [donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@sotpmail.com) or 214-676-1788 or through the church office.

Contact: Donna Kelly  
[donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@sotpmail.com)



# Involvement Schedule

## November 2024

		Nov 2 & 3	Nov 9 & 10	Nov 16 & 17	Nov 23 & 24	Nov 30	
Counters	MON	Ralph Wehens, Cheryl Adams & Diana Murphy					
Greeters <i>Interested in Serving Here?</i> Contact: Elaine Gillam suggillam@aol.com	SUN 9:00 AM	Linda & Ken Rotter	Eileen Gerald Terry Halpin	Dottie Bobzin Candace Beck	Laura Attaway Cyndi Munson		
	SUN 10:45 AM	Carolyn & Bob Malm					
Ushers <i>Interested in Serving Here?</i> Contact: Ed Cuttle edschn28@comcast.net	SAT 5:00 PM	Karen Eckert Lynn Meyer	Tom Cox Therese Cox	Carol Hartman Peggy Lynn Loiselle	Carol Hartman Steve Murphy	Diana & Jim Murphy	
	SUN 9:00 AM	<b>WALTER LEMKE</b> Tim Bueschel Jeff Stangle Jeff Ottens Mickey & Cathy Kappel	<b>JACK CONTI</b> Cheryl Rotermund John & Patti Witt Carol Engstrom	<b>NANCY WILSON</b> Wayne Schmidt Arja Kasper Dan Wentzlof Mike Malczewski	<b>RALPH WEHNES</b> Stan Crissman Jerry & Pat Darow George Attaway		
	SUN 10:45 AM	<b>BOB MCDUFFEE</b> Annika Yndestad Mike & Patti Kargol	<b>MARK FRENDEIS</b> Sandy Stewart Jessica Panella	<b>DOUG NAGEL</b> Don Koerner Judy Petropulos	<b>BOB MOLLIS</b> Diane Mollis Krystal Smith		

# Regularly Scheduled



## SUNDAYS

8:30-11am (1st Sun) **Food Drive for Grafton Food Pantry**  
9:00 am **Traditional Worship**  
9:00 am **Kids Connect**  
10:20 am **Adult Education: Factfulness**  
10:45 am **Contemporary Worship**  
10:45 am **Kids Connect**  
1:00 pm **FBW**  
2:00 pm **Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal**

## MONDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**  
9:00 am (3rd Mon) **Gazebo Valor Quilts**  
10:30 am **FBW**  
12:30 pm **Friends (Women's) Bible Study**  
6:30 pm **Boy Scout Troop 200**  
7:00 pm (2nd Mon) **Ministry Night**  
7:00 pm (3rd Mon) **Council Meeting**

## TUESDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**  
8:00 am **Men's Coffee** at McD's by Huntley Walmart  
8:30 am **Staff Meeting**  
9:00 am (1st & 3rd Tues), **Prairie Pointe Quilters**  
9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**  
9:15 am **AL-ANON Meeting**  
10:00 am **Grief Journey Group**  
2:30 pm ( 2nd Tues), **Barnabas**  
6:30 pm (1st Tues), **Boy Scout Troop 200 Committee**  
6:30 pm (1st Tues), **Boy Scouts Patrol Leader's Council**

7:00 pm **Transitions Journey Through Loss**

7:00 pm **FBW**  
7:00 pm **AL-ANON Meeting**  
7:00 pm **Adult Bells Rehearsal**

## WEDNESDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**  
9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**  
10:30 am **Women's FBW**  
11:00 am **God's Girls (Del Webb) Bible Study**  
5:45 pm **Wednesday Night Dinners**  
7:00 pm **Confirmation**  
7:00 pm **High School Youth**  
7:00 pm **Adventure Club**  
7:00 pm **Adult Choir Rehearsal**

## THURSDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**  
9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**  
9:00 am (2nd Thurs), **Prayer Shawl Ministry**  
1:00 pm (1st Thurs) **Book Club**  
6:30 pm (2nd Thurs), **Lions Club**  
7:00 pm **Cub Scouts**  
Times Vary **Volunteers at Habitat for Humanity ReStore**

## FRIDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**  
10:00 am **Women's Coffee** at McD's by Huntley Walmart  
10:30 am **FBW**  
5:00 pm **Girl Scout Troop 779**

## SATURDAYS

5:00 pm **Worship**





# Special Events

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3** Grafton  
Food Pantry Food Drive—Donate  
a Thanksgiving Meal with a \$30  
Donation, 8:30-11am  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPfood](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPfood)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10** New  
Member Gathering, 3pm  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG1124](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG1124)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17** Game Day  
(Chili Cookoff, Football, Other  
Games & More), Noon  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPg24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPg24)

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23**  
Next Step for All Seniors—  
Holiday Luncheon, Noon  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1124](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1124)

**WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 23 & 24**  
Prayer Shawl Weekend

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27**  
Friendsgiving Dinner Church, 6pm  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24)

**NOVEMBER 28 & 29**  
Thanksgiving Weekend,  
Office Closed

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 2**  
Decorate the Church, 9am  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPdec24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPdec24)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3**  
Blue Christmas Service, 7pm  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPblue24](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPblue24)

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

The Artist Series Presents “Merry  
Christmas Darling”, 5pm  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPartist1224](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPartist1224)

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14** Children’s  
Christmas Musical Dress Rehearsal,  
9:30am

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14**, 5pm  
Children’s Christmas Musical

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15**, 10:45 am  
Children’s Christmas Musical

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24**  
Christmas Eve, Office Closed  
Traditional Service, 3pm  
Contemporary Service, 5pm

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25**  
Christmas Day, Office Closed

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29**  
One Service Only, 10am

**DECEMBER 31 & JANUARY 1**  
New Years Eve & Day, Office Closed

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7**, Release &  
Renew, Open House 8am-8pm  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPrenew25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPrenew25)

**JANUARY 9** 1 Samuel Weekly Bible  
Study Starts, 11am

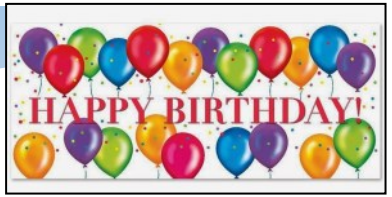
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 19** The Artist  
Series Presents Youth Jazz  
Ensemble of DuPage, 4pm

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 26**  
Annual Meeting, 12:15pm

**FEBRUARY 2**  
Great SOTP Bakeoff, 2pm

# Birthdays

November



1-Nov Tracy McDuffee

Kylie Rankin

Faith Geller

Lee Gollhardt

2-Nov Luke Brockman

Beverly Pinnelli

3-Nov Roy Olson

Sherry Roberts

Diana Reincke

4-Nov Shipra Minz

5-Nov Emily Ernst

Christian Larson

6-Nov Maggie Rojas

Michael Yndestad

Joseph Trevino

Amy Brittain

Autumn Maraviglia

7-Nov Carol Gerhardt

Nancy Morbeck

Jonathan Perez

Lucy Panvino

Jenny Hollabaugh

8-Nov Fred Turner

Linda Jarvis

9-Nov Wayne Wagner

Patricia Bour

Breanna Huston

Marcia Ball

Sarah Frederickson

10-Nov Kenneth Rotter

Mike Kasal

Nathaniel Reincke

David Johnson

Carrie Gronau

11-Nov Jeffrey Case

Jocelyn Doden

Jake Scalise

Carol Legel

Merrily Burkland

Dana Ullrich

12-Nov Thor Forsythe

Paul Marx

Monica Dase

Randi Dawson

13-Nov Rebecca Tuzik

Don Koerner

Melissa Juergensen

Paul Lemke

Alexander Stenson

14-Nov Jill Brown

Mark Boster

Don Schneider

Elise Dean

16-Nov Michael Lehmann

17-Nov Gina DeBolt

Rylen Jacobs

Emory Wildermuth

18-Nov Kristine DeBolt

Barbara Pagano

18-Nov Tom Cox

19-Nov Cassidy Serpe

Diane Peterson

Kimberly Szekely

20-Nov Dick Maiman

21-Nov David Kann

Jen Raines

Mike McGuigan

Art Ryden

22-Nov Lesley Beallis

William Christ

Joyce Thompson

Elizabeth Johnson

24-Nov Michael Malczewski

25-Nov Pamela Sandberg

Janet Thunholm

26-Nov Barbara Hoppensteadt

27-Nov Ruth Mecklenburg

Geri Lynn Schlichting

28-Nov Beth Brockman

Carlene Moeller

Casey Coots

29-Nov Terry Halpin

Jim Rhode

Richard Juergensen

30-Nov Lisa Caddoo

Madelyn Brittain

Stefanie Kindle





**GOD'S  
WORK,  
OUR HANDS**

# Get Involved

Ways to Serve

**Are you looking for ways to use your talents and participate in our church family?**

**Here are some ideas and who to contact for more information for each one:**

- Adult Choir—Jane McMullen, jane@sotppmail.com
- Adventure Club—Jill Gillming jill@soapmail.com
- Annual Church Picnic – Donna Kelly— donna@sotppmail.com
- Assisting Minister (9am) – Sue Sroka —dssroka5@gmail.com
- Artist Series – Jane McMullen jane@sotppmail.com
- A/V Team – Josh Harding— josh@sotppmail.com
- Barnabas Ministry—Donna Kelly donna@sotppmail.com
- Bell Choir (Adult) —Jane McMullen, jane@sotppmail.com
- Bell Choir (Kids & Youth) – Jane McMullen, jane@sotppmail.com
- Communion Assistants—Sue Sroka— dssroka5@gmail.com
- Communion Set Up & Take Down— Judie Symbal, judie.symbal@att.net
- Community Outreach—Tara Mackey, rtmackey10@yahoo.com
- Counters—Ralph Wehnes, ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net
- Crafting Gifts for Sr. Citizens & Homeless Blankets—Alice Hallett, agrndmom3@gmail.com
- Greeters—Elaine Gillam, suggillam@aol.com

- Habitat for Humanity – Sandy Hupert sandyhupert@gmail.com
- Kids Academy—Amy Stech amc\_stech@yahoo.com
- Kids Connect—Jill Gillming jill@sotppmail.com
- Mission Team – Sandy Hupert sandyhupert@gmail.com
- Newsletter Mailing Prep—Michelle Rankin, michelle@sotppmail.com
- Next Step Fellowship (Single Seniors Fellowship) – Dave Stangle, dstangle.ds@gmail.com or Phyllis Thomson, phyllisthompson@aol.com
- Property Team—Mark Frenreis, SOTpproperty@gmail.com
- Prairie Quilters—Bev Kenny krkbjk@comcast.net
- Prayer Shawls—Jeanne Henley, cjhenley2003@yahoo.com
- Public Relations—Matt Morrison, matt@sotppmail.com
- Readers—Sue Sroka— dssroka5@gmail.com
- Small Groups—Donna Kelly donna@sotppmail.com
- Ushers—Ed Cuttle edschn28@comcast.net
- Vacation Bible School – Jill Gillming jill@sotppmail.com
- Welcome Center—Tara Mackey, rtmackey10@yahoo.com
- Worship Band (Singing & Instrumental)—Jeff Moore, jeff@sotppmail.com



# Treasurer's Report

SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH

## TREASURER'S REPORT SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

### UNRESTRICTED GENERAL FUND

	MONTHLY	MONTHLY	MONTHLY ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL	YTD PERCENT	YTD PERCENT
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. MONTHLY BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. YTD BUDGET			
September 1, 2024 Beginning Balance	\$ 383,994.13								
Monthly Income	80,858.07	74,785.00	\$ 6,073.07	710,281.61	718,641.00	\$ (8,359.39)	\$ 966,000.00	73.53%	
Monthly Expenses	71,367.26	76,274.00	\$ (4,906.74)	687,750.19	711,384.00	\$ (23,633.81)	\$ 966,000.00		73.64%
Income vs. Expenditures	9,490.81	(1,489.00)		22,531.42	7,257.00				
September 30, 2024 Ending Balance	\$ 393,484.94								
Average Monthly Expenses (Budgeted)	\$ 80,500.00								
Approx. Months Covered by Fund Balance	4.89								

### MORTGAGE SERVICE FUND

	MONTHLY	MONTHLY	MONTHLY ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL	YTD PERCENT	YTD PERCENT
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. MONTHLY BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. YTD BUDGET			
September 1, 2024 Beginning Balance	\$ 35,555.47								
Monthly Income	14,494.73	18,807.00	\$ (4,312.27)	157,377.46	169,263.00	\$ (11,885.54)	\$ 225,684.00	69.73%	
Monthly Expenses	18,807.00	18,807.00	\$ -	169,263.00	169,263.00	\$ -	\$ 225,684.00		75.00%
Income vs. Expenditures	(4,312.27)	-		(11,885.54)	-				
September 30, 2024 Ending Balance	\$ 31,243.20								
Average Monthly Expenses	\$ 18,807.00								
Approx. Months Covered by Fund Balance	1.66								

Respectfully submitted,

George Attaway, Treasurer



## Stay Connected emails



### Do you receive our email communications?

- Daily Devotionals (Food for the soul)
- Weekly Friday Flourish (Church info)
- Monthly Newsletter (More detailed information)
- Weekly Videos from our pastors

To start receiving any (or all) of the above, please go online to:

[www.bit.ly/SOTPemails](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPemails)



# SOTP Staff

## Pastor Mark Boster

Senior Pastor  
pastormark@sotpmail.com

## Pastor Ryan Mackey

Pastor  
pastorryan@sotpmail.com

## Kendra Coots

Assistant Teacher—  
Little Lambs Preschool  
kendra@sotpmail.com

## Jill Gillming

Director of Children and Family  
Ministry  
jill@sotpmail.com  
LittleLambs@sotpmail.com

## Josh Harding

A/V and Office Support Staff  
josh@sotpmail.com

## Donna Kelly

Director of Connections Ministry  
donna@sotpmail.com

## Jane McMullen

Traditional Music & Worship  
Director  
jane@sotpmail.com

## Jeff Moore

Contemporary Music Director  
jeff@sotpmail.com

## Matt Morrison

Operations Manager  
matt@sotpmail.com

## Michelle Rankin

Operations and Communications  
Assistant  
michelle@sotpmail.com

## Dave Shotick

Accounting Administrator  
accounting@sotpmail.com

# Church Council

**Bob Mollis**, President  
**Kathy McGuine**, Vice President  
**George Attaway**, Treasurer  
**Christa Serpe**, Secretary

**Mike Luecht**  
**Ellen Nissen**  
**Jim Puls**  
**Sara Wolf**

# Follow Us Social Media



@shepherdoftheprairie



@sotpmedia10805

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church  
is a congregation of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**“A Growing Church, For Growing People”**

For information, please call (847) 669-9448  
or go to our website at [sotp.org](http://sotp.org)

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Saturday 5:00 pm**

**Sunday 9:00 am Traditional  
& 10:45 am Contemporary**

*Worship with us in person  
or online at [sotp.org](http://sotp.org)  
and Facebook Live*

Shepherd of the Prairie  
Lutheran Church  
10805 Main Street  
Huntley, IL 60142



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ORG  
U. S. POSTAGE  
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HUNTLEY, IL  
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